

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04724 231839Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 231800Z JUL 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7305

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKYAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T GENEVA 4724

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: CSCE: CONSULTATIONS ON ESSENTIALS

REFS: STATE 157032

STATE 157020

STATE 157018

STATE 157019

STATE 158622

1. US REP (SHERER) PRESENTED US VIEWS ON FURTHER ALLIED CONSULTATIONS ON ESSENTIALS AT NATO DELEGATION HEADS' CAUCUS JULY 23. DRAWING FULLY ON REFTELS, SHERER PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM FOR REMAINDER OF THIS WEEK TO COME TO AGREED DOCUMENT PRIOR TO CSCE RECESS.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04724 231839Z

2. IMMEDIATE UNANIMOUS REACTION OF ALLIED DELEGATION

HEADS WAS BITTER AND RESENTFUL. NOTING THERE HAD BEEN NO AGREEMENT IN NAC ON TIMING OR NATURE OF THIS EXERCISE, DELEGATION HEADS EXPRESSED "SURPRISE" AND "SHOCK" THAT US SHOULD MAKE WHAT THEY CONSIDERED SUCH AN UNREASONABLE AND IMPRUDENT PROPOSAL. AS FORESHADOWED BY OUR EARLIER CABLES ON THIS SUBJECT, DELEGATION HEADS QUESTIONED UTILITY AND WISDOM OF EXERCISE PROPOSED BY US AND RECALLED FACT THAT BASKET III TEXTS ALREADY EXIST WHICH WERE DRAFTED THROUGH LONG CONSULTATION PROCESS IN EC-9 AND NATO, BASED IN LARGE PART ON US INPUTS. NEW TEXTS COULD ONLY BE WRITTEN AFTER THESE TEXTS HAD BEEN FULLY DISCUSSED IN THE CSCE DRAFTING PROCESS.

3. ALLIED DELEGATION HEADS FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT US PRESENTATION INDICATED "EXTREME UNDER-ESTIMATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CSCE," AND RECALLED THAT IN NAC DISCUSSIONS ALL DELEGATIONS EXCEPT US WERE UNANIMOUS IN AGREEING THAT THIS EXERCISE CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT BE DONE AT THIS TIME.

4. IN VIEW OF INFORMAL CSCE MEETING TO DISCUSS NEUTRAL PACKAGE DEAL FOR BASKET III PREAMBLE (SEE SEPTTEL), NATO DELEGATION HEADS' CAUCUS WAS CUT SHORT, AND IT WAS AGREED TO RESUME THIS DISCUSSION AFTERNOON OF JULY 24. WITH DELEGATES DUE TO BEGIN DEPARTING FROM GENEVA ON JULY 25, THIS WILL LEAVE VERY LITTLE TIME FOR DRAFTING OF ANY NATO CAUCUS PAPER BEFORE THE RECESS. NEVERTHELESS, SOME NATO DELEGATIONS ARE LOOKING FOR A WAY TO MAKE A GESTURE TOWARD US POSITION THIS WEEK. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES OUR OBJECTIVE AT NEXT NATO CAUCUS WILL BE TO PUT TOGETHER SOME KIND OF PAPER, HOPEFULLY INCLUDING US SUGGESTED TEXTS, EVEN IF THESE HAVE TO BE ANNEXED OR BRACKETTED TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENT ACCEPTABLE.

5. WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT ANY PAPER CAN BE AGREED BEFORE THE RECESS, BUT WHATEVER CAN BE MANAGED WILL CERTAINLY FALL FAR SHORT OF WHAT WE HAVE PROPOSED. ABRAMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, AGREEMENT DRAFT, CONSULTANTS, MEETINGS, BASKET III
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA04724
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740199-0297
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740726/aaaaawbz.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: STATE 157032
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE: CONSULTATIONS ON ESSENTIALS
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005